UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/24771
6 November 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 5 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 2 November 1992 a letter from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia was circulated in the United Nations as a Security Council document; annexed to that letter was a letter signed by Georgi Petrossian.

Accordingly, I have the honour to state the following:

1. Azerbaijan considers the circulation of the letter from the so-called "President of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, G. Petrossian" by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to be a gross interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State - the Azerbaijani Republic.

2. In the territory of Azerbaijan there exists no such place as the "Nagorno-Karabakh Republic" to which reference is made in the letter. Nagorny-Karabakh is essentially a geographical concept - specifically, the name for the highland portion of the vast region of Karabakh which is under the full jurisdiction of the Azerbaijani Republic.

3. The fact of the matter is that, in an effort to wrest away a significant portion of the territory of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia initially instigated a separatist movement in Azerbaijan in an attempt to exploit the principle of self-determination of peoples and thus vitiate the principle of territorial integrity and inviolability of borders. Subsequently, several thousand square kilometres of the territory of Azerbaijan, both in the highland portion of Karabakh and outside it, were occupied by an expeditionary force of the Armenian military.

4. Azerbaijan categorically rejects any attempt to introduce into United Nations usage, even in veiled form, the concept of an administrative-territorial entity which does not exist in Azerbaijan.

5. This action by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia enflames an already difficult situation and cannot advance the work of the representative of the United Nations Secretary-General sent to the region with the approval and consent of the Government of Azerbaijan to study the question of the contribution which the United Nations could make in support of the efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) to settle the military conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative